to expand grcca cover inhibit encroachment and check soil erosion, as also to meet rural fuel and fodder needs, and thereby reduce pressure on existing natural forest and protected areas.

The scheme under consideration will be finalised only after assessment of various issues involved.

United Nations Children's Conference on Environment in England

2468. SHRI RAMNATH KOVIND: DR. RANB1R SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether United Nations Children's Conference on Environment in Eastbourne, England was organised in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof with objectives;

(c) whether the conference was represented by India;

(d) whether Government propose to take up some programmes to encourage more and more children of the country to create awareness about environment; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) An International Children's Conference on the Environment was organised by Conference Associates and Services International Ltd., at Eastbourne in the United Kingdom from 23—25 October, *W5.*

(b) The objectives of the Conference were to voice the concerns of children, to develop a global network to promote positive action and produce a charter to present to their respective Governments and the United Nations.

(c) Yes. Sir.

(d) and (c) Children are involved in environment,"! programmes through a scheme for 'Eco-club' of this Ministry. An Eco-club may be set up in a Government recognised middle/high school with 20—50 students. The Objectives of the scheme are:

— to educate children about their immediate environment and causes of its deterioration;

— to impart knowledge about the role of different factors in an eco-system, their inter-dependence and their need for survival, through field visits and demonstrations;

— to mobilise youngsters by instilling in them the spirit of scientific enquiry into environmental problems; and to involve students in environmental preservation efforts.

A sum of Rs. lOOOAper annum is provided to each eco-club. The best eco-clubs are also given awards annually.

गुजरात में पेट्रोलियम परियोजनाएं

2469. **श्री गोविन्दराम मिरी**: क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार सौराष्ट्र के उदयमान तेल क्षेत्रों के कुछ प्रखंडों को कतिपय संयुक्त उद्यम परियोजनाओं को सौपनें पर विचार कर रही हैं;

(ख) यदि हां,तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या हैं,

(ग) क्या इस प्रयोजनार्थ कुछ हद तक कोई विदेशी पूंजी आमंत्रित की गयी हैं;

(घ) क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय ने जामनगर में इस परियोजना के स्थापनार्थ अपनी स्वीकृति प्रदान कर दी हैं;

(ड़) यदि हां,तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या हैं,और

(च) क्या गुजरात उच्च न्यायालय ने मोटी खावड़ी परियोजना को पर्यावरण संबंधी मानदण्डों के उल्लंघन के लिए कोई आदेश जारी किया हैं?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन सतीश शर्मा): (क) और (ख) भारत सरकार ने संयुक्त उद्यम अन्वेषण कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत तेल और गैस के अन्वेषण के लिए निजी कंपनियों को गुजरात कच्छ तटीय बेसिन में जी के ओ एन जे-1